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December 2, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Re: U.S. Patent Application No.: 10/601020
For: *NOVEL HEPATITIS C VIRUS PEPTIDES AND USES THEREOF*
Inventors: Branch, Andrea D. *et al.*
Filed: June 20, 2003
Our Ref. No.: RII-003CPUSCN

Dear Sir:

I enclose herewith for filing in the above-identified application the following:

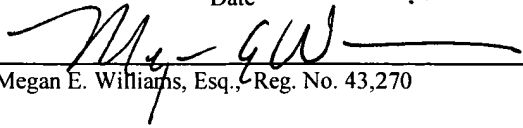
1. Information Disclosure Statement;
2. PTO Form 1449; and
3. A Return Postcard.

No additional costs are believed to be due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. However, please charge any necessary fees in connection with the enclosed statement to our Deposit Order Account No. 12-0080. For this purpose, a duplicate of this sheet is attached.

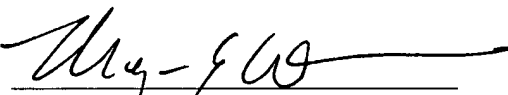
I hereby certify that this correspondence is deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on:

December 2, 2003

Date


Megan E. Williams, Esq., Reg. No. 43,270

Respectfully submitted,
LAHIVE & COCKFIELD, LLP


Megan E. Williams, Esq.
Registration No. 43,270
Attorney for Applicants



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: Branch, Andrea D. *et al.*

Serial No.: 10/601020

Filed: June 20, 2003

For: *NOVEL HEPATITIS C VIRUS PEPTIDES AND USES THEREOF*

Attorney Docket No.: RII-003CPUSCN

Group Art Unit: 1648

Examiner: D. Wortman

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

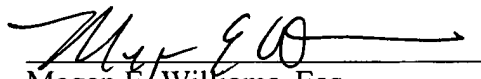
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December 2, 2003

Date of Signature and of Mail Deposit

By:


Megan E. Williams, Esq.
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Attorney for Applicants

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

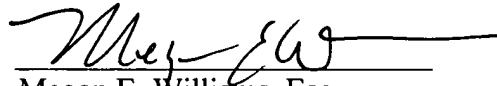
Dear Sir:

For the Examiner's convenience in reviewing this continuation application, Applicants submit a consolidated PTO Form 1449, listing all references cited during the prosecution of the parent application. The present application is a Continuation of U.S. Serial No. 09/719277, filed April 13, 2001 (Atty. Docket No. RII-003CPUS). All references listed on the enclosed PTO Form 1449 have been previously cited by or submitted to the Office in the prior application, and, in accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(d), copies of the references are not enclosed but will be provided upon request.

This statement is not to be interpreted as a representation that the cited publications are material, that an exhaustive search has been conducted, or that no other relevant information exists. Nor shall the citation of any publication herein be construed *per se* as a representation that such publication is prior art. Moreover, Applicants understand that the Examiner will make an independent evaluation of the cited publications.

Under 37 CFR § 1.97(b)(3), no additional costs are believed to be due in connection with the filing of this disclosure. If, however, a first Office Action on the merits issues in this application bearing a mailing date prior to the date of this Information Disclosure Statement, please charge the appropriate fee as required under 37 CFR §1.17(p) to our Deposit Order Account No. 12-0080.

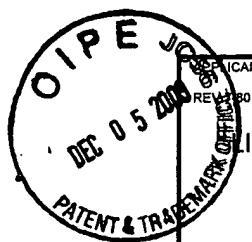
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Date: December 2, 2003

GAD/MEW/kvj
Enclosures



APPLICANT FACSIMILE OF FORM PTO-1449		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY DOCKET NO RII-003CPUSCN	SERIAL NO. 10/601020
LIST OF PUBLICATIONS CITED BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)			APPLICANT Branch, Andrea D. et al.	
			FILING DATE June 20, 2003	GROUP 1648

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	A1	5,350,671	09/94	Houghton et al..	435	5	
	A2	5,443,965	08/95	Reyes et al..	435	693	
	A3	5,728,520	03/98	Weiner et al..	435	5	
	A4	5,840,839	11/98	Wang et al..	530	325	
	A5	6,027,729	02/00	Houghton et al..	424	228.1	
	A6	6,054,264	04/00	Chien et al..	435	5	
	A7	6,074,846	06/00	Ralston et al..	435	69.3	
	A8	6,150,087	11/00	Chien	435	5	
	A9	6,171,782	01/01	Houghton et al..	435	5	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	A10	WO 94/25601 A2,A3	11/94	WO				
	A11	WO 96/05315 A2,A3	02/96	WO				
	A12	WO 96/40227 A1	12/96	WO				

OTHERS (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	A13	Bullock, T.N.J. et al.. "Ribosomal scanning past the primary initiation codon as a mechanism for expression of CTL epitopes encoded in alternative reading frames," <i>J. Exp. Med.</i> , 184:1319-29 (1996).
	A14	Feucht, H.-H. et al. "Study on Reliability of Commercially Available Hepatitis C Virus Antibody Tests" <i>Journal of Clinical Microbiology</i> 33(3):620-624 (March 1995).
	A15	Ina, Y. et al. "Reduction of synonymous substitutions in the core protein gene of hepatitis C virus," <i>J. Mol. Evol.</i> , 38:50-56 (1994).
	A16	Lo, S.-Y. et al. "Comparative studies of the core gene products of two different hepatitis C virus isolates: two alternative forms determined by a single amino acid substitution." <i>Virology</i> 199(1):124-31(1994 Feb. 15).
	A17	Lo, S.-Y. et al. "Differential subcellular localization of hepatitis C virus core gene products." <i>Virology</i> 213(2):455-61(1995 Nov. 10).
	A18	Lo, S.-Y. et al. "Interaction between hepatitis C virus core protein and E1 envelope protein." <i>J. Virol.</i> 70(8):5177-82 (1996 Aug.).
	A19	Malarkannan, S. et al. "Presentation of out-of-frame peptide/MHC class I complexes by a novel translation initiation mechanism." <i>Immunity</i> 10(6):681-90 (1999 Jun.).
	A20	Ray, B.R et al. "Hepatitis C virus core protein cooperates with ras and transforms primary rat embryo fibroblasts to tumorigenic phenotype." <i>J. Virol.</i> 70(7):4438-43 (1996 Jul).

Examiner	Date Considered
*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

